United Nations E/AC.51/2002/L.6/Add.16

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
3 July 2002

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination
Forty-second session
10 June-5 July 2002
Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-second session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro **Torres Lépori** (Argentina)

Addendum

Programme questions: proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 14
Economic and social development in Africa

1. At its 14th meeting, on 20 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/57/6 (Prog. 14)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the proposed revisions and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of them.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the programme. The inclusion of new mandates related to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), HIV/AIDS and the least developed countries was welcomed. The view was expressed that references to the United Nations Millennium Declaration should be included in the text of the overall orientation of the programme. It was pointed out that the proposed revisions should have included references to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa. The view was expressed that reference to the South-South summit held in Havana in the spring of

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2000 should be incorporated in the text under overall orientation. The inclusion of the reference to the Constitutive Act of the African Union under subprogramme 6 was welcomed.

4. The establishment of the new subprogramme 9, dealing with training and infrastructure development, was supported. The view was also expressed that since the training activities to be carried out under new subprogramme 9 were cross-cutting they could have been addressed under already existing subprogrammes.

5. The view was expressed that a number of indicators of achievement should be reformulated in order to provide a qualitative analysis of the impact of the work and of the progress achieved.

6. Clarification was sought of the definition of the concepts "economic management" and "corporate governance". It was explained that they referred to the daily management of economics, including macroeconomic stability, effective management, regulatory and appropriate frameworks, the achievement of greater transparency and the fight against corruption.

7. Queries were raised about the change of the name of subprogramme 3. It was explained that food security was still an issue to be dealt with by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it examine this programme in the light of the final assessment of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (UN-NADAF) and any decisions which might be taken on NEPAD.

9. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, with the following modifications:

Indicators of achievement

Throughout the whole text, after the word "number" insert the words "and impact".

Paragraph 14.2

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the South Summit of the Group of 77, held in Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000".

Paragraph 14.13 (a)

In the third sentence, after the words "the Lome IV Convention", insert the words "and other trade-related bilateral and multilateral initiatives".

Paragraph 14.13 (c)

Retain the original wording of paragraph 14.13 (c) of the medium-term plan, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Subprogramme 3

Retain the original name of subprogramme 3 given in the medium-term plan, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 14.21 (b)

At the end of the second sentence, after the words "economic and corporate governance", insert the words "in the context of implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development".

Paragraph 14.21 (c)

Delete the first sentence (*moved from old paragraph 14.13 (c)*).

Paragraph 14.30

Retain the original wording of paragraph 14.30 of the medium-term plan, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 14.31 (b)

Retain the original wording of paragraph 14.31 (b) of the medium-term plan, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 14.31 (c)

Retain the original wording of paragraph 14.31 (c) of the medium-term plan, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 14.37

In the third sentence, replace the words "in the framework of the implementation of" with the words "in support of the objectives of".

Paragraph 14.43

Replace the words "the number of" with the words "efficiency in the training provided to".

Legislative mandates

- **Add General Assembly resolutions 56/202 (Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries), 55/182 and 56/178 (International trade and development) to the general part.**
- **Add General Assembly resolution 55/182 (International trade and development) to subprogramme 2.**

United Nations E/AC.51/2002/L.6/Add.17

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Addendum

Programme questions: proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 15
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

1. At its 14th meeting, on 20 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the medium-term plan for the period of 2002-2005 (A/57/6 (Prog. 15)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the proposed revisions and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of them.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the proposed revisions and for the important role of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in the region. It was noted with appreciation that the reformulated programme was more focused and result-oriented and that higher priority was given to poverty reduction and to combating the spread of HIV/AIDS.

4. The view was expressed that ESCAP's reorganization was a welcome and necessary exercise, and appreciation was expressed for the series of

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intergovernmental consultations and extensive informal consultations with Member States which had been undertaken in the course of that exercise.

5. Although it was recognized that, in general, the revised indicators had been improved compared to the original ones, the view was also expressed that further efforts should be made to identify more appropriate indicators which should clearly connect to expected accomplishments and the outcome of the work of ESCAP.

6. The view was expressed that references to the least developed countries should have been included in each subprogramme and not only in subprogrammes 1 and 4.

7. It was suggested that reference to South-South cooperation and to the outcome of the Havana Summit be carefully articulated under the strategy, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement.

8. The view was expressed that ESCAP should continue to reform its programmes and practices to make them more demand-driven and interactive.

Conclusions and recommendations

9. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, with the following modifications:

Throughout the text

Replace the words "poverty reduction" with the words "poverty eradication" throughout the text of the programme.

Paragraph 15.1

In the second sentence, after the words "that allow them", insert the words "while minimizing the adverse impacts of globalization".

[Paragraph 15.3

– In the first sentence, replace the words "emerging social issues" with the words "social issues".]

– At the end of the fourth sentence, after the words "economic, social and environmental areas", add the words "as well as on matters relating to human resource development".

[–In the penultimate sentence, replace the words "human security" with the words "humanity".]

Paragraph 15.5

In the first sentence, after the words "the special needs of", insert the words "developing countries, including".

Paragraph 15.8 (a)

After the words "poverty, population and the environment", insert the words "and economic growth".

Paragraph 15.8 (c)

Replace the words "poverty alleviation" with the words "poverty eradication".

Paragraph 15.9

- **In the first sentence, replace the words "economic and social position of the poor" with the words "economic and social condition of the poor".**
- **In the second sentence, after the words "special attention to reducing poverty", insert the words "in the developing countries, particularly".**
- **At the end of the paragraph, add the words "and the Declaration of Havana (South Summit of the Group of 77, 2000)"**

Paragraph 15.10 (a)

Replace the words "recognition of ESCAP as a think tank with a thorough understanding of" with the words "enhanced analytical, policy and operational capabilities of ESCAP as regards".

Paragraph 15.10 (b)

After the words "pro-poor", insert the words "economic growth".

Paragraph 15.10 (c)

Insert the word "facilitating" before the words "enhanced regional cooperation".

Paragraph 15.11 (a)

Replace the words "the view of members and associate members" with the words "satisfaction of Member States".

Paragraph 15.11 (b)

Insert the words "inter alia" between the words "associate members" and the words "in response to".

Paragraph 15.11 (c)

Replace paragraph 15.11 (c) with the following: "the number of pilot projects implemented, adopted and replicated in the region, on the basis of best practices in poverty eradication".

Paragraph 15.12

- **Replace the words "to generate poverty data and measure progress towards the millennium development goals" with the words "to collate and utilize sectoral data, particularly relating to poverty, and measure progress towards development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration".**

– After the words "progress towards", insert the words "mobilizing international, regional and national resources in achieving".

Paragraph 15.13 (b)

After the words "policy formulation", insert the words "resource mobilization".

Paragraph 15.13 (f)

After paragraph 15.13 (f), add a new subparagraph (g) as follows: "collect and disseminate statistical data on mobilizing international, regional and national resources for poverty eradication".

[Paragraph 15.15 (b)

[– Replace the word "especially" with the words "particularly in developing countries, including".]

[– Insert the words "the required resources and" after the word "including".]

Paragraph 15.15 (c)

After the word "collaboration", insert the words "in resource mobilization at the international, regional and national levels".

[Paragraph 15.16 (c)

Before the words "gender issues", insert the words "resource mobilization".

Paragraph 15.19 (d)

[–Delete the words "in least developed, landlocked and island developing countries and countries with economies in transition".]

[–Delete the words "of central and local officials".]]

[Paragraph 15.20

Delete subparagraphs (b), (d) and (e).]

[Paragraph 15.20 (e)

After the words "the number of," insert the words "developing countries including".]

Paragraph 15.26

After the words "strategies that would enable them", insert the words "while minimizing the adverse impacts of globalization".

Paragraph 15.29 (d)

After the words "renewable energy development", add the words "and advanced fossil fuel technologies, where appropriate, and".

Paragraph 15.30 (d)

Replace paragraph 15.30 (d) with the following: "an increase, as appropriate, in the number of national renewable energy plans and advanced fossil fuel technologies plans introduced or improved, energy efficiency policies and measures introduced in energy-intensive establishment, and evidence of enhanced subregional energy cooperation".

[*Paragraph 15.31*

After the words "associate members", add the words "including the least developed countries of the region".]

Paragraph 15.33

At the end of the paragraph after the words "inter-sub-regional networking", add the words "inter alia, through South-South cooperation".

Subprogramme 7

[Revise title of subprogramme 7 to read "Social development".]

Paragraph 15.36

- **In the first sentence, after the word "manifestations", add the words "in order to enhance the productivity and quality of human resources".**
- **Replace the first bullet with the following: "Gender equality and mainstreaming and greater participation of marginalized social groups, especially the poor, women, youth, children, people with disabilities, older persons and people living with HIV/AIDS in the context of rapid socio-economic and demographic change".**

Paragraph 15.37 (c)

Replace the words "undertake policy analysis of emerging social issues" with the words "engage in social development planning".

Paragraphs 15.39 (d) and (e) and 15.40 (e)

[Replace the words "vulnerable groups" with the words "marginalized groups" (in order to be consistent with 15.5).]

Legislative mandates

Add the following General Assembly resolutions:

"52/194: Role of microcredit in poverty eradication" (subprogramme 1)

"55/182: International trade and development" (subprogramme 3)

"56/202: Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries" (subprogrammes 1 and 6)

United Nations E/AC.51/2002/L.6/Add.17/Rev.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
8 July 2002

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Programme questions: proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 15
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

1. At its 14th meeting, on 20 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the medium-term plan for the period of 2002-2005 (A/57/6 (Prog. 15)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the proposed revisions and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of them.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the proposed revisions and for the important role of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in the region. It was noted with appreciation that the reformulated programme was more focused and result-oriented and that higher priority was given to poverty reduction and to combating the spread of HIV/AIDS.

4. The view was expressed that the reorganization of ESCAP was a welcome and necessary exercise, and appreciation was expressed for the series of

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intergovernmental consultations and extensive informal consultations with Member States that had been undertaken in the course of that exercise.

5. Although it was recognized that, in general, the revised indicators had been improved compared with the original ones, the view was also expressed that further efforts should be made to identify more appropriate indicators which should clearly connect to expected accomplishments and the outcome of the work of ESCAP.

6. The view was expressed that references to the least developed countries should have been included in each subprogramme and not only in subprogrammes 1 and 4.

7. It was suggested that reference to South-South cooperation and to the outcome of the Havana Summit be carefully articulated under the strategy, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement.

8. The view was expressed that ESCAP should continue to reform its programmes and practices to make them more demand-driven and interactive.

Conclusions and recommendations

9. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, with the following modifications:

Throughout the text

- **Replace the words "poverty reduction" with the words "poverty eradication" throughout the text of the programme.**
- **Replace the phrase "Emerging social issues" with "Social development, including emerging social issues", including in the title of subprogramme 7.**
- **Replace the term "vulnerable" or "vulnerable groups" with "marginalized" or "marginalized groups".**

Paragraph 15.1

In the second sentence, after the words "that allow them", insert the words "while minimizing the adverse impacts of globalization".

Paragraph 15.3

- **At the end of the fourth sentence, after the words "economic, social and environmental areas", add the words "as well as on matters relating to human resource development".**
- **In the penultimate sentence, delete the words "to 'human security'".**

Paragraph 15.5

The first sentence should read: "In line with global priorities, and taking into account the diversity in levels of development of countries and areas of the Asia and Pacific region, the programme will focus especially on the concerns of the developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the region, particularly the special needs of the least developed countries,

landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, to accelerate their integration into the regional and global economies."

Paragraph 15.8 (a)

After the words "poverty, population and the environment", insert the words "and economic growth".

Paragraph 15.8 (c)

Replace the words "poverty alleviation" with the words "poverty eradication".

Paragraph 15.9

- **In the first sentence, replace the words "economic and social position of the poor" with the words "economic and social condition of the poor".**
- **The second sentence should be changed to read: "ESCAP will give special attention to reducing poverty, especially in the developing countries and countries with economies in transition of the region, taking into account particularly the special needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States."**
- **At the end of the last sentence, add the words "and the relevant provisions of the Declaration and Havana Programme of Action adopted by the South Summit of the Group of 77 held in Havana, from 10 to 14 April 2000".**

Paragraph 15.10 (a)

Replace the words "recognition of ESCAP as a think tank with a thorough understanding of" with the words "enhanced analytical, policy and operational capabilities of ESCAP as regards".

Paragraph 15.10 (b)

After the words "pro-poor", insert the words "economic growth".

Paragraph 15.10 (c)

Insert the word "facilitating" before the words "enhanced regional cooperation".

Paragraph 15.11 (a)

Replace the words "the view of members and associate members" with the words "satisfaction of Member States".

Paragraph 15.11 (b)

Insert the words "inter alia" between the words "associate members" and the words "in response to".

Paragraph 15.11 (c)

Replace paragraph 15.11 (c) with the following: "the number of pilot projects implemented, adopted and replicated in the region, on the basis of best practices in poverty eradication".

Paragraph 15.12

- **Replace the words "to generate poverty data and measure progress towards the millennium development goals" with the words "to collate and utilize sectoral data, particularly relating to poverty, and measure progress towards development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration".**
- **After the words "progress towards", insert the words "mobilizing international, regional and national resources in achieving".**

Paragraph 15.13 (b)

After the words "policy formulation", insert the words "resource mobilization".

Paragraph 15.13 (f)

After paragraph 15.13 (f), add a new subparagraph (g) as follows: "collect and disseminate statistical data on mobilizing international, regional and national resources for poverty eradication".

Paragraph 15.15 (b)

The subparagraph should read: "increased capacity, especially in the developing countries and countries with economies in transition of the region, taking into account particularly the special needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States to identify, collect, process, analyse, utilize and disseminate data needed for natural economic and social development, including the capacity to support the analysis of gender issues".

Paragraph 15.15 (c)

After the word "collaboration", insert the words "in resource mobilization at the international, regional and national levels".

Paragraph 15.16 (c)

Before the words "gender issues", insert the words "resource mobilization and".

Paragraph 15.19

Subparagraph (d) should read: "enhanced capacity, especially of the developing countries and countries with economies in transition of the region, particularly the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, in removing impediments related to investment

attraction, facilitation and implementation measures". The reference to "central and local officials" has been deleted.

Subparagraph (e) should read: "enhanced capacity of national institutions assisting small and medium-sized enterprises of developing-country members and associate members, and countries with economies in transition, especially the developing countries of the region, particularly the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, to increase their export competitiveness".

Paragraph 15.20

Reword subparagraph 15.20 (b) to read: "an increase in the number of advisory services to members of the region for accession to the World Trade Organization".

Reword subparagraph 15.20 (c) to read: "an increase in the number of advisory services to members of the region for new signatories to the Bangkok Agreement".

Delete subparagraph 15.20 (d).

Reword subparagraph 15.20 (e) (now subparagraph 15.20 (d)) to read: "an increase in the number of advisory services, especially to the developing countries and countries with economies in transition of the region, particularly the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, in introducing new or modified legislation, regulations and/or policies with regard to investment attraction, facilitation and implementation measures".

Paragraph 15.26

After the words "strategies that would enable them", insert the words "while minimizing the adverse impacts of globalization".

Paragraph 15.29 (d)

After the words "renewable energy development", add the words "and advanced fossil fuel technologies, where appropriate, and".

Paragraph 15.30 (d)

Replace paragraph 15.30 (d) with the following: "an increase, as appropriate, in the number of national renewable energy plans and advanced fossil fuel technologies plans introduced or improved, energy efficiency policies and measures introduced in energy-intensive establishment, and evidence of enhanced subregional energy cooperation".

Paragraph 15.31

The paragraph should read: "The objective of this subprogramme is to strengthen the capacity of ESCAP members and associate members, especially the developing countries and countries with economies in transition of the region, particularly the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, to create an enabling environment

for the development, transfer and application of information, communication and space technology."

Paragraph 15.33

At the end of the paragraph after the words "inter-sub-regional networking", add the words "inter alia, through South-South cooperation".

Subprogramme 7

Revise title of subprogramme 7 to read "Social development including emerging social issues".

Paragraph 15.36

- **In the first sentence, after the word "manifestations", add the words "in order to enhance the productivity and quality of human resources".**
- **Replace the first bullet with the following: "Gender equality and mainstreaming and greater participation of marginalized social groups, especially the poor, women, youth, children, people with disabilities, older persons and people living with HIV/AIDS in the context of rapid socio-economic and demographic change".**

Paragraph 15.37 (c)

Replace the words "undertake policy analysis of emerging social issues" with the words "engage in social development planning".

Legislative mandates

Add the following General Assembly resolutions:

"52/194: Role of microcredit in poverty eradication" (subprogramme 1)

"55/182: International trade and development" (subprogramme 3)

"56/202: Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries" (subprogrammes 1 and 6)

United Nations E/AC.51/2002/L.6/Add.18

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
3 July 2002

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination
Forty-second session
10 June to 5 July 2002
Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-second session

Draft report

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Addendum

Programme questions: proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 16
Economic development in Europe

1. At its 14th meeting, on 20 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to programme 16, Economic development in Europe, of the medium-term plan for the period of 2002-2005 (A/57/6 (Prog. 16)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the proposed revisions and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of them. He also recommended that the Committee approve an additional revision consisting of the addition of the words "and social" after the words "economic" in the second sentence of paragraph 16.2.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the proposed revisions, including the division of subprogramme 6 into two subprogrammes — Trade development and Industrial restructuring and enterprise development — since those subjects represented a major economic challenge for countries with economies in transition. However, some concern was also expressed about the division of subprogramme 6 since it was

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considered that trade, industry and enterprise development were issues that should remain in the same subprogramme. It was also expressed with concern that the creation of a new subprogramme 9 could have no other effect than expanding Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) bureaucracy.

4. It was pointed out that no reference to the side-effects of the ongoing process of enlargement of the European Union had been included in the proposed revisions. It was further stated that, in view of the expertise of ECE in a number of sectors, such as trade and trade facilitation and enterprise development, the revisions should include reference to the assistance that ECE could be in a position to provide to other regional commissions in those areas.

5. The view was expressed that the outcomes of international conferences did not constitute a sufficient basis for changing the mandates or overall orientation of ECE, and regional commissions should follow or implement those broad outlines in a way that was relevant to their core functions and served their members' interests and needs. Also, the ECE secretariat should seek intergovernmental agreement for its proposals at the commission level before presenting them to the Committee for consideration.

Conclusions and recommendations

6. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to programme 16, Economic development in Europe, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, with the following modifications:**

Paragraph 16.13

Add the following new subparagraph (f):

"(f) Performance of the necessary administrative functions to maintain and update the 'Compendium of Candidate Regulations for Harmonization' and 'Registry for Global Regulations' associated with the 1998 'Agreement Concerning the Establishment of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts Which Can Be Fitted and/or Be Used on Wheeled Vehicles', to enable the Agreement to become fully operational."

Paragraph 16.33 (d)

Add at the end of the subparagraph the words "in accordance with WTO regulations".

Paragraph 16.34 (a)

Insert the words "new and/or updated" between the words "the number of" and the words "ECE trade facilitation".

Paragraph 16.34 (b)

Retain the original indicator as another item.

Paragraph 16.34 (c)

Retain the original indicator as a new one.

Paragraph 16.49 (c)

Replace the words "the number of" with the words "the delivering of assistance to" and insert the words "with a view to" after the words "countries with economies in transition".

United Nations E/AC.51/2002/L.6/Add.19

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
3 July 2002

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Item 4 (b)

Programme 17
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

1. At its 15th meeting, on 20 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/57/6 (Prog. 17)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the proposed revisions and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the revisions.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the programme and the proposed revisions. The inclusion of the relevant provisions of the Millennium Declaration was noted with appreciation.

4. The view was expressed that the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) was of great importance to the development of

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the Latin American and Caribbean region. Delegations expressed praise for the work carried out by the programme in assisting Member States in assessing the economic and social effects of natural disasters and related recovery tasks as well as the efforts of ECLAC to assist the countries of the region in following up and implementing the outcomes of the recent major international conferences convened under the auspices of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields.

5. It was observed that gender mainstreaming had been emphasized in all aspects of the work programme of ECLAC, due to the cross-cutting nature of the issue. The view was expressed that emphasis should also be placed on issues of major concern for the region, such as poverty reduction, development and the social consequences of structural adjustment policies.

6. Delegations felt that the sentence proposed for deletion in paragraph 17.3 — "Gender mainstreaming, consideration of environmental sustainability, institution-building and improvement of public regulation are priority aspects of such interrelations" — should be retained since it encompassed a concept of importance for the whole programme.

7. Delegations mostly welcomed the proposed inclusion of the new sentence in paragraph 17.21 — "In the context of social development and equity, special emphasis will be given to consolidating the approach to development based on human rights and the promotion of peace and democracy". However, a question was raised in that regard concerning the mandate for the last part of this sentence — "approach to development based on human rights and the promotion of peace and democracy" — on the grounds that it was not based properly on any specific mandate. Concern was expressed that the insertion proposed for paragraph 17.21 did not come from any mandate of ECLAC, as had been indicated by the Secretariat. The insertion was beyond the objective of the revisions to the medium-term plan, which was aimed at updating the medium-term plan with the relevant mandates after its adoption.

8. Concern was expressed that some of the proposed revisions diluted the emphasis of the work of ECLAC in the field of the eradication of poverty and social inequity.

9. Some delegations felt that, in item (a) in paragraph 17.22, emphasis should be placed on social justice and equity, in addition to the emphasis placed on gender inequality.

10. Support was expressed for the proposed inclusion of the phrase "and for using a core set of gender indicators for public policy formulation and implementation" in paragraph 17.25 under subprogramme 5. In that regard, it was pointed out that the creation of databases, as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly in its report,[1] could serve to avoid unnecessary duplication and spread best practices. The view was also expressed that, in paragraph 17.28, the indicator of achievement (c) should be reformulated to shift emphasis from "consolidation of national and regional institutions dealing with gender issues" to "mainstreaming gender issues in public policy formulation and implementation in the relevant economic and social sectors".

11. It was also observed that the revisions should include a reference to the Monterrey Consensus resulting from the recent International Conference on Financing for Development.

12. Finally, questions were raised as to whether the Assembly of ECLAC at its 2002 session had given sufficient consideration to the proposed revisions.

Conclusions and recommendations

13. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, with the following modifications:**

Paragraph 17.3

- **Retain the original wording of the text proposed for deletion — "Gender mainstreaming, consideration of environmental sustainability, institution-building and improvement of public regulation are priority aspects of such interrelations" — in paragraph 17.3 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1);**
- **Add at the end of the second sentence the following: "The Monterrey Consensus, as adopted by the General Assembly, will also be regarded as a guideline to implement activities related to the programme of work of ECLAC."**

New paragraph 17.21

- **[Delete bold text (to be finalized in informal, informals)]**
- **[Revise bold text to read: [to be finalized in informal, informals]**

Paragraph 17.22 (a)

Replace the text in bold type reading "and reduce poverty with a focus on gender inequality" with the words "and reduce poverty particularly with a focus on reducing gender inequality, in this regard".

Paragraph 17.22 (c) and (e)

- **Retain the original wordings contained in paragraph 17.22 (c) and (e) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1);**
- **Retain the new text contained in paragraph 17.22 (c) and (e).**

Paragraph 17.23 (b)

- **Retain the original wording in paragraph 17.23 (b) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1) and renumber accordingly, as a new indicator;**
- **Retain the new text contained in paragraph 17.23 (b).**

Paragraph 17.28 (c)

Replace the text of paragraph 17.28 (c) with the words "mainstreaming gender issues in public policy formulation and implementation in the relevant economic and social sectors".

Paragraph 17.50 (c)

– Retain the original wording in paragraph 17.50 (c) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1) and renumber accordingly, as a new indicator;

– Retain the new text contained in paragraph 17.50 (c).

Legislative mandates

Under General Assembly resolutions add: "56/178 International Trade and development".

Subprogramme 4

Add General Assembly resolution: "52/194 Role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty".

Add General Assembly resolution: "56/202 Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries".

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third special session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), para. 84 (e).

United Nations E/AC.51/2002/L.6/Add.19/Rev.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
8 July 2002

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination
Forty-second session
10 June-5 July 2002
Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-second session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro **Torres Lépori** (Argentina)

Addendum

Programme questions: proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 17
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

1. At its 15th meeting, on 20 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/57/6 (Prog. 17)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the proposed revisions and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the revisions.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the programme and the proposed revisions. The inclusion of the relevant provisions of the Millennium Declaration was noted with appreciation.

4. The view was expressed that the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) was of great importance to the development of the Latin American and Caribbean region. Delegations expressed praise for the work carried out by the programme in assisting Member States in assessing the economic

02-46429 (E) 080702

and social effects of natural disasters and related recovery tasks as well as the efforts of ECLAC to assist the countries of the region in following up and implementing the outcomes of the recent major international conferences convened under the auspices of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields.

5. It was observed that gender mainstreaming had been emphasized in all aspects of the work programme of ECLAC, due to the cross-cutting nature of the issue. The view was expressed that emphasis should also be placed on issues of major concern for the region, such as poverty reduction, development and the social consequences of structural adjustment policies.

6. Delegations felt that the sentence proposed for deletion in paragraph 17.3 — "Gender mainstreaming, consideration of environmental sustainability, institution-building and improvement of public regulation are priority aspects of such interrelations" — should be retained since it encompassed a concept of importance for the whole programme.

7. Delegations mostly welcomed the proposed inclusion of the new sentence in paragraph 17.21 — "In the context of social development and equity, special emphasis will be given to consolidating the approach to development based on human rights and the promotion of peace and democracy". However, a question was raised in that regard concerning the mandate for the last part of this sentence — "approach to development based on human rights and the promotion of peace and democracy" — on the grounds that it was not based properly on any specific mandate. Concern was expressed that the insertion proposed for paragraph 17.21 did not come from any mandate of ECLAC, as had been indicated by the Secretariat. The insertion was beyond the objective of the revisions to the medium-term plan, which was aimed at updating the medium-term plan with the relevant mandates after its adoption. In this context, the Committee was unable to reach agreement regarding the retention or the deletion of the proposed new text.

8. Concern was expressed that some of the proposed revisions diluted the emphasis of the work of ECLAC in the field of the eradication of poverty and social inequity.

9. Some delegations felt that, in item (a) in paragraph 17.22, emphasis should be placed on social justice and equity, in addition to the emphasis placed on gender inequality.

10. Support was expressed for the proposed inclusion of the phrase "and for using a core set of gender indicators for public policy formulation and implementation" in paragraph 17.25 under subprogramme 5. In that regard, it was pointed out that the creation of databases, as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly in its report,[1] could serve to avoid unnecessary duplication and spread best practices. The view was also expressed that, in paragraph 17.28, the indicator of achievement (c) should be reformulated to shift emphasis from "consolidation of national and regional institutions dealing with gender issues" to "mainstreaming gender issues in public policy formulation and implementation in the relevant economic and social sectors".

11. It was also observed that the revisions should include a reference to the Monterrey Consensus resulting from the recent International Conference on Financing for Development.

12. Finally, questions were raised as to whether the Assembly of ECLAC at its 2002 session had given sufficient consideration to the proposed revisions.

Conclusions and recommendations

13. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, with the following modifications:**

Paragraph 17.3

- **Retain the original wording of the text proposed for deletion — "Gender mainstreaming, consideration of environmental sustainability, institution-building and improvement of public regulation are priority aspects of such interrelations" — in paragraph 17.3 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1);**
- **Add at the end of the second sentence the following: "The Monterrey Consensus, as adopted by the General Assembly, will also be regarded as a guideline to implement activities related to the programme of work of ECLAC."**

Paragraph 17.22 (a)

Replace the text in bold type reading "and reduce poverty with a focus on gender inequality" with the words "and reduce poverty particularly with a focus on reducing gender inequality, in this regard".

Paragraph 17.22 (c) and (e)

- **Retain the original wordings contained in paragraph 17.22 (c) and (e) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1);**
- **Retain the new text contained in paragraph 17.22 (c) and (e).**

Paragraph 17.23 (b)

- **Retain the original wording in paragraph 17.23 (b) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1) and renumber accordingly, as a new indicator;**
- **Retain the new text contained in paragraph 17.23 (b);**
- **Insert after "lessons learned" the phrase "with the assistance of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean".**

Paragraph 17.28 (c)

Replace the text of paragraph 17.28 (c) with the words "mainstreaming gender issues in public policy formulation and implementation in the relevant economic and social sectors".

Paragraph 17.50 (c)

– Retain the original wording in paragraph 17.50 (c) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1) and renumber accordingly, as a new indicator;

– Retain the new text contained in paragraph 17.50 (c).

Legislative mandates

Under General Assembly resolutions add: "56/178 International trade and development".

Subprogramme 4

Add General Assembly resolution: "52/194 Role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty".

Add General Assembly resolution: "56/202 Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries".

14. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly, at its fifty-seventh session, further consider paragraph 17.21 of the programme.

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third special session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), para. 84 (e).